

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 INR-10 NSC-10 CIAE-00 EURE-00

RSR-01 RSC-01 /063 W

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P 031520 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6077

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 1900

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV PINT YO

SUBJ: TITO' S HEALTH

REF BELGRADE 1871

1. SUMMARY. APPARENT LAST MINUTE CHANGE IN SCHEDULING OF GIEREK VISIT TO REDUCE TITO PARTICIPATION AND TRAVEL IS CONFIRMING OF REPORT REFTEL THAT TITO ACTIVITIES BEING CURTAILED. TITO DID HOWEVER MAKE MAY DAY APPEARANCE IN SLOVENIA. END SUMMARY.
2. TANJUG HAS NOW RELEASED SCHEDULE FOR GIEREK VISIT WHICH TAKES HIM TO LJUBLJANA MORNING MAY 4, PROVIDES FOR TALKS WITH TITO AT LATTER' S KRANJ RETREAT AFTERNOON SAME DAY, AND THEN HAS GIEREK TOURING IN SLOVENIA MAY 5 AND 6, WITH ARRIVAL IN BELGRADE AFTERNOON MAY 7 FOR 24- HOUR STAY.
3. INVITATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY PRESS CORPS WEEK OF APRIL 23 FOR RECEPTION TO BE HOSTED EVENING MAY 4 IN BELGRADE BY TITO AND MADAME BROZ IN HONOR MR. AND MRS. GIEREK. VOA BELGRADE CORRESPONDENT MARK HOPKINS WAS INFORMED OF CANCELLATION THIS EVENT ONLY MORNING MAY 3 WHEN HE INQUIRED (AT EMBASSY REQUEST) REGARDING GIEREK SCHEDULE AFTER EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED NOTIFICATION FROM FOREIGN SECRETARIAT OF GIEREK' S MAY 7 BELGRADE ARRIVAL. AMBASSADOR HAD NOT RPT NOT RECEIVED INVITATION RECEPTION, BUT ONES TO

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MISSION CHIEFS NORMALLY COME VERY LATE.

4. CHANGE IN SCHEDULE FOR GIEREK CAME AFTER RECEPTION INVITATIONS SENT TO PRESS, WHICH TIMING WOULD FIT INDICATION REFTEL THAT TITO ADVISED TO REST AND THUS CANCELLED MEETING WITH JAPANESE FORMIN. IN ADDITION, SCHEDULE HALF DAY OF TALKS WITH GIEREK DOES NOT FIT EXTENSIVE PRESS BUILD-UP RE IMPORTANCE OF TITO- GIEREK TALKS, AND FOREIGN OFFICE PRESS SPOKESMAN APRIL 26 INDICATED MEETINGS BOTH AT BRIONI AND IN BELGRADE WERE LIKELY.

5. TITO DID APPEAR AT MAY 1 CELEBRATION IN KAMNISKA BISTRICA, NEAR KRANJ, WHERE HE HAD ONE TIME BEEN EMPLOYED AS A METAL WORKER. HE DID NOT HOWEVER SPEAK AND THERE WAS NO INDICATION OF EXTENT OF HIS PARTICIPATION. BORBA CARRIED PICTURE OF TITO AND JOVANKA SEATED AT A TABLE IN AN OPEN YARD SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE.

6. FINAL PARAGRAPH REFTEL SHOULD READ 81 RPT 81 RATHER THAN 82 AS TITO'S AGE AT BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH.
TOON

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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